

Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences, and Mitigation/ Consultation, Review, and Permit Requirements

to Bonneville staff or construction contractors. Potential risk and liability includes worker health and safety, management of contaminated materials and/or exacerbation of contaminated media.

Page 3-126, new bullet has been added after last bullet on the page as follows:

- Should contaminated media be unexpectedly encountered during construction, work should stop and an environmental specialist called to characterize the nature and extent of contamination and determine appropriate State-approved measures to prevent spread and protect health and safety.
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Consultation, Review, and Permit Requirements (Chapter 4)

Page 4-2, delete paragraph 3 and add new text as follows:

~~Jones & Stokes biologists conducted field surveys of the project corridor during summer 2001.~~

A Biological Assessment (Final Biological Assessment, BPA McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project, May 2002) was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service in May 2002. The Biological Assessment concluded that the project activities “may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect” listed species in the project area (bald eagle, pygmy rabbit, bull trout, Ute ladies’ tresses, northern wormwood, coastal cutthroat trout [Columbia River/southwest Washington DPS], steelhead trout [Snake River Basin ESU, and Upper Columbia River ESU], sockeye salmon [Snake River ESU], chinook salmon [Snake River Fall ESU, Snake River Spring/Summer ESU, and Upper Columbia River Spring ESU], and any designated critical habitat for these species.

For tower placement adjacent to the Columbia River, an amendment was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in August 2002, with a conclusion that activities “may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect” bull trout. The tower work requires a Corps permit and is an activity allowed under the National Marine Fisheries Service Programmatic Biological Opinion and Magnuson-Stevens Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for Standard Local Operating Procedures for Endangered Species (SLOPES) for Certain Activities Requiring Department of Army Permits in Oregon and the North Shore of the Columbia River.

Appropriate mitigation measures consistent with consultation are listed in Chapter 3 in the sections Streams, Rivers and Fish; Vegetation; and Wildlife.

Page 4-9, paragraph 2 has been modified as follows:

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) regulates all work done in or structures placed below the ordinary high water mark of navigable waters of the United States. Construction of the footings for the Columbia River crossing towers at McNary Substation may be below the ordinary high water mark of the river. The proposed project also includes conductors that would span the navigable waters of the Columbia River, a “water of the United States” as defined in the Rivers and Harbors Act. Overhead utility lines constructed over Section 10 waters require a Section 10 permit. Coordination with the Corps will occur for both of these potential permits.

Page 4-9, paragraph 4 has been modified as follows:

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, the State Water Quality Certification program, requires that states certify compliance of federal permits and licenses with state water quality requirements. A federal permit to conduct an activity that results in discharges into waters of the United States, including wetlands, is issued only after the affected state certifies that existing water quality standards would not be violated. ~~Bonneville is not expecting any discharges into waters of the U.S.~~

Page 4-9, paragraph 6 has been modified as follows:

Section 404 requires authorization from the Corps in accordance with the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act when there is a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Twenty-four wetlands or waters of the U.S. would be crossed by access roads, and the river-crossing-tower adjacent to the Columbia River near McNary Substation would require some wetland fill. ~~Bonneville does not expect any waters (including wetlands) to be impacted by access road or tower construction. Water bodies/wetland field surveys would ensure full compliance with the Clean Water Act.~~ If there would be ~~For the~~ potential impacts, authorization is being ~~would be~~ sought from the Corps and the appropriate state and local government agencies in Washington and Oregon. Please see the Wetlands and Groundwater section of Chapter 3 for further discussion of potential wetland impacts for the project.
